

STATE OF MICHIGAN TERRI LYNN LAND, SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Lansing

September 11, 2008

Dear Editor/News Director:

Two statewide ballot proposals will be presented to Michigan voters on Nov. 4. Enclosed you will find the statement of purpose for each as they will appear on the ballot.

PROPOSAL 08-1: A legislative initiative to permit the use and cultivation of marijuana for specified medical conditions.

PROPOSAL 08-2: A proposal to amend the state constitution to address human embryo and human embryonic stem cell research in Michigan.

As Michigan's Secretary of State, I encourage you to publicize these proposals as widely as possible so that voters have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the ballot questions before Election Day. The full text of these proposals can be found at www.Michigan.gov/sos.

As always, please feel free to contact Kelly Chesney, director of the Office of Communications,

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at (517) 373-2520 with any questions.

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Enclosures

STATE PROPOSALS: NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

<u>PROPOSAL 08-1:</u> A LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO PERMIT THE USE AND CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA FOR SPECIFIED MEDICAL CONDITIONS

The proposed law would:

- Permit physician approved use of marijuana by registered patients with debilitating medical conditions including cancer, glaucoma, HlV, AIDS, hepatitis C, MS and other conditions as may be approved by the Department of Community Health.
- Permit registered individuals to grow limited amounts of marijuana for qualifying patients in an enclosed, locked facility.
- Require Department of Community Health to establish an identification card system for patients qualified to use marijuana and individuals qualified to grow marijuana.
- Permit registered and unregistered patients and primary caregivers to assert medical reasons for using marijuana as a defense to any prosecution involving marijuana.

Should this proposal be adopted?

PROPOSAL 08-2: A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ADDRESS HUMAN EMBRYO AND HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH IN MICHIGAN

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Expand use of human embryos for any research permitted under federal law subject to the following limits: the embryos --
 - -- are created for fertility treatment purposes;
 - -- are not suitable for implantation or are in excess of clinical needs;
 - -- would be discarded unless used for research;
 - -- were donated by the person seeking fertility treatment.
- Provide that stem cells cannot be taken from human embryos more than 14 days after cell division begins.
- Prohibit any person from selling or purchasing human embryos for stem cell research.
- Prohibit state and local laws that prevent, restrict or discourage stem cell research, future therapies and cures.

Should this proposal be adopted?